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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS

Episode #2.

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11:30 to 12:30 A.M. C.S.T. JANUARY 14, 1932 THURSDAY

ANNOUNCER: Last week we introduced you to a new group of interesting people, Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers, which is to be a weekly feature of the National Farm and Home Hour.

We told you at that time, you remember, that you would hear more of Ranger Jim Robbins, his wife, and other folks at the Pine Cone Ranger Station, where Jim is stationed. In the opening episode we learned of the arrival of Ranger Jim's new assistant, Jerry Quick. It seemed that young Jerry had a lot to learn, so let's see how he is getting along today.

As the scene opens we find Jim Robbins in his office working on a report

(SOUND OF TYPEWRITER CLICKING SLOWLY AND LABORIOUSLY)

JIM: Durn it. -- It's plain enough I wasn't meant to be anybody's stenographer. (Decisive Click) There! ----
 (Typewriter clicks punctuate following words) "Tires--
 having-----been-----kept----- out----- since--- the-----
 area-----was-----cut-----over-----comma-----
 Where in heck is the comma?

JERRY: (breezily) Down there in the right-hand corner, isn't it, Mr. Robbins?

JIM: Heh? Oh, you, Jerry. Didn't know you were here.

JERRY: Find it?

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST HANDS

Episode #1

11:30 to 12:30 A.M. JANUARY 14, 1932 THURSDAY

ANNOUNCER: Last week we introduced you to a new group of

interesting people, Uncle Sam's Forest Hands, which is to be

a weekly feature of the National Film and Sound News.

We told you at that time, you remember, that you would

hear more of Kenneth the Gopher, his wife, and other folks at

the fine Gene Kenner Station, where the film is shot. In the

opening episode we showed of the arrival of Kenneth the new

assistant, Jerry Gopher. It seemed that Jerry had a lot to

learn, so let's see how he is getting along today.

As the scene opens we find the Gopher in his office

writing on a report...

(SOUND OF TYPEWRITER CLICKING, BELL AND LABORIOUSLY)

JERRY: But it's -- it's plain enough I wasn't meant to be any-

body's stenographer. (Udderative Click) There! ---

(Typeewriter clicks punctuated following words) "First--

having--been--out--since--the--

stage--was--out--over--coming--

Where in heck is the company?

JERRY: (frustrated) Down there in the right-hand corner, isn't

it, Mr. Gopher?

JERRY: Right! You, Jerry. Didn't you see here.

THANKS: Time 1:27

JIM: Yeah, here it is (DECISIVE CLICK) Fires having been kept out since the area was cut over, young growth---is---coming -- in -- abundant# --- t -- l -- y ----- abundantly. There. These old fingers of mine are a heap sight more handy at grabbing an ax handle than thumping one of these machines, Jerry.

JERRY: (laughs) I see they are. I know a little bit about typing, Mr. Robbins. Why not let me finish that report?

JIM: Well, maybe so.

JERRY: You can dictate it to me.

JIM: I'm not so good at dictating, boy. You see, my wife does most of the dictating that's done around here.

BESS: (from distance) What's that you were saying about me?

JIM: (Laughs) See there, Jerry? She heard me. Well, Bess, I'll have to admit that the way you do it, a fellow doesn't mind being dictated to.

BESS: (good-naturedly; closer) A lot of attention you pay to anything I say. Look how many times I have to call you before you come to lunch, for instance.

JIM: Now, Bess, you only had to call me twice today.

BESS: Today, -- yes!.. How are you getting along, Mr. Quick?

JERRY: Fine, Mrs. Robbins.

JIM: That's my New Year's resolution, Jerry -- to be on time for lunch. "Go when called". That's going to be my motto. You know, when a fellow has to be on call all the time, in a job like this, and has to jump whenever anything happens, or even looks like it's going to, why I suppose he slows up around the house, just to show that he can do it.

(BESS AND JERRY LAUGH)

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JIM: Yeah, here it is (DECISIVE CLICK) Fingers having been

BESS: You certainly do.

JIM: Well, Jerry, I'm going to leave you for a minute, so let's see about this report.

JERRY: All right, Mr. Robbins.

JIM: If you'll just copy the rest of this page out of my note book here, that will finish it up. See, start right there.

JERRY: I see.

(SOUND OF TYPEWRITER CLICKLING, MUCH FASTER)

JIM:- (Going off) I'll be right back, folks.....

BESS: My, but you're fast, Mr. Quick.

(CLICKING STOPS)

JERRY: Well, I.....er.....

BESS: Did you study it in school or did you just pick it up?

JERRY: Oh, I just picked it up. I never really took a course in it. I use the "hunt and peck!"

BESS: You do mighty well, just the same.

JERRY: And I wish....Mrs. Robbins....that you'd just call me...
Jerry.

BESS: (Heartily) I certainly will, son. We want you to feel at home, you know.

JERRY: Oh, thanks, a lot.

BESS: And I think you ought to meet some of the people around here. You can't work all the time. Have you met any young folks at all? There's a mighty nice school teacher here this year.

JERRY: Yes, I know. I met her. And I was thinking I might go over to the dance they're having at the hall tonight, Mrs. Robbins, only -----

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So over to the dance they're having at the hall tonight,
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BESS: Only, what?

Page 4.

JERRY: Well, you see I've only been working a week. Do you suppose it would be all right to ask Mr. Robbins if I could go; I've still got a lot to get on to, you know.

BESS: Why certainly it would! You just go ahead and ask him--- You ought to go--- and get acquainted with folks. It'll do you good. You mustn't get lonesome, Jerry, because then you won't be able to work. Not properly, anyhow. And no matter how many old folks like us there are around, a young man like you is bound to get lonesome ----- once in awhile.

(MUSICAL INTERLUDE)

(TYPEWRITER IS CLICKING RAPIDLY)

JIM: 'Bout finished, Jerry.

JERRY: (over clicking) Just about.

(CONTINUES FEW SECONDS, THEN STOPS)

JERRY: There! All finished, Mr. Robbins.

JIM: Much obliged to you, boy.

JERRY: I guess that entitles me to a smoke....

JIM: You handle that machine like an expert, son. Hope you turn out to be as handy with a fire shovel!

JERRY: (laughs) I hope so, too! Look here, Mr. Robbins. See, I'm breaking this match in two before I throw it away.

JIM: That's right. You're learning. If you're sure your match is out, you're sure it won't start any fire you hadn't figured on. Mull that over, son.

JERRY: You needn't worry about me. I won't start any!

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JERRY: Well, you see I've only been working a week. Do you

BESS: Only, what?

JIM: Now that we've got this report finished, we'd better look this map over ... Let's see Yep, here it is. This is where we're going tomorrow, Jerry, to look over that timber sale.

JERRY: Right here?

JIM: That's it. --- You see, the winding Creek Lumber Company was the successful bidder when we advertised this tract of timber in here. They own all this land over here to the west, but they cut it off clean a few years ago, and then they let a couple of fires get loose and burn up what young stuff was left. Now they'd be up against it if it wasn't for the timber in the national forest.

JERRY: I'll say they would! Only I don't see why you let them have national forest timber if that's the way they do.

JIM: They don't do it anymore, son. They know better now. They're all right, Jerry; they just didn't look a enough ahead when they started cutting in there.

JERRY: How do you mean?

JIM: It looked to them like they had all the timber in the world when they started in, but they didn't realize that timber can't last forever, unless you treat it right. And besides, we've got to help them out now that they've made their mistake because the whole community depends on that mill.

JERRY: Yeah, that's right. If the mill shut down, nearly everybody in the town would be out of a job.

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JIM: It would sure be a hard winter for a lot of folks. You see, Jerry, our job is public service, and seeing as the national forests are run for the good of the public we ought to let our own community here get a little of this benefit.

JERRY: (grandiloquently) The forest ranger's motto: "Create -- Protect-- Restore"!....

JIM: Correct! But my old friend Ranger Bill says the ranger's motto ought to be the "Work -- Sweat -- and Cuss". ---- Well, as I was saying, the company's paying a fair price for the government's timber; we're not giving them anything. And a part of the money they pay comes right back to this county to help out on roads and schools.

JERRY: Yes, but what's going to happen after they've cut out all of the government's timber?

JIM: That's just it; they won't cut out all the government's timber. The management plan for this district takes care of that.

JERRY: Just what is this management plan, Mr. Robbins?

JIM: Well, the management plan works this way, Jerry: It lets the company that buys the timber from the government cut just so much -- about as much as the year's growth. We've got that all figured out and the sale contract is based on that.

JERRY: But how do you know they'll cut the right trees.

JIM: That's simple, because they can only take out the trees that we mark for them.

JERRY: The mature ones?

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JIM: Yeah. We mark the old ones for 'em and that's all they can move out. That way, they leave plenty of growing timber and by the time they've gone over the whole area-- moving from tract to tract as we've outlined for them-- why the first tract will be ready to cut again. That way there's always a new crop of timber coming on.

JERRY: Oh, I see; a sustained yield plan.

JIM: That's it -- sustained yield. -- It's mighty important to this little town to keep that timber alive, so we've got to keep it growing. --- See this gulch here?

JERRY: Yes.

JIM: That's where you're going to mark the trees for cutting this week.

JERRY: Who, me?

JIM: Yeah, it will be good practise for you.

JERRY: All right!

JIM: And if you make amistake, then you'll hear from me.

JERRY: I'll have to get some pointers from you first-----

JIM: Oh, I'll help you out, all right. And before we go up there, you'd better go over that management plan; get pretty familiar with the marking rules. You'd better do that tonight.

JERRY: Tonight?!!!

JIM: Yeah. --- What's the matter, don't you want to?

JERRY: Well, I -----

JIM: You've got to know what you're doing, boy, before you start marking trees for cutting. So tonight's the time to study a bit.

JERRY: I had planned to do something else tonight, but that's all right.

JIM: Something else? What was that?

JERRY: Well, you see, ...er ... Mr. Robbins, there's a dance tonight ---

JIM: A dance?

JERRY: Yes sir. Over at the hall; so some of the folks in town told me, and I had sort of planned on going if I wasn't too busy.

JIM: So-----! Only been here a week and you've got your eye one one of these pretty girls in the town already, eh? Well, look here, young man! We've got plenty to do around this station without running around to every party that comes along. You've got to study up on that management plan, and besides you haven't finished up the inventory of those fire-fighting tools yet.

JERRY: All right, Mr. Robbins. Sorry I mentioned it. Just thought I'd ask, in case we weren't busy.

JIM: That's all right. But when there's work to be done, you know-----! -- You'd better get back to checking those fire tools right now.

JERRY: Yes sir. (DOOR OPENS AND CLOSSES)

(JIM CHUCKLES TO HIMSELF)

(BRIEF MUSICAL INTERLUDE)

BESS: Jim, did Jerry tell you about that dance over at the hall tonight?

JIM: Yes, he did. But he's got to study up on that management plan tonight.

BESS: Oh, Jim, aren't you going to let him go? He'll be so disappointed! I wish you'd let him go.

JIM: (chuckles) What for, Bess?

BESS: Jim Robbins, are you fooling me again?

JIM: No, why?

BESS: Yes you are. You're smiling, and ----

JIM: No sir. That's just --- well, just my face twitching!

BESS: Well, that boy's been working so hard all this week. Why, you've had him fixing up and storing those tools all day, and studying reports and maps every night, and

JIM: Hard work is good for a young fellow.

BESS: I know, Jim, but a "young fellow" ought to have a little recreation once in awhile.

JIM: (chuckles) Well don't you worry, Bessie. I sort of suspicioned the young cub was itching to get to that dance and I've been planning to let him go all the time.

BESS: Oh, Jim! That's just like you!

JIM: And say, Bess -- I've just been thinking -- maybe you and I ought to step over to that party tonight ourselves. It's been a long time since we kicked up our heels!

BESS: Why, Jim, what on earth would I wear?!

JIM: Now that's just like a woman! What'll you wear? Why, that black silk dress of yours is still the prettiest thing I ever saw around these parts!

(MUSICAL INTERLUDE)

ANNOUNCER: Well, I'll just bet that Mrs. Robbins does look fine in that blacksilk dress. I'd like to be there at that dance tonight and see the fun. Everybody ought to have a good time. Perhaps we shall hear more about it next Thursday at this time, when we shall continue the story of Ranger Jim and Jerry, his new assistant.

These programs are presented through cooperation of the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. Most of us don't realize that there are one hundred and fifty one national forests in the United States. But there are ----- and altogether they cover an area of more than one hundred and sixty million acres -- an area half again as large as the whole state of California. So you see Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers -- the men like Jim Robbins and Jerry Quick --- have a big job, for they are the managers and guardians of this vast estate. One of their many jobs is to keep the timber growing as a continuous crop. Rangers therefore must be scientific foresters, because forestry is the science of growing continuous crops of timber from the soil.

But rangers have a lot to do besides that, as we shall see later on in this series, which, as we told you, comes to you through the cooperation of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

is
January 6, 1932.

